Docket No.: 87427.1040

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation Number: 7723

Serial No.: 09/848,413) Art Unit: 3677

Filed: May 4, 2001) Examiner: Thomas HO

For: DOOR LATCHING DEVICE AND METHOD

DEC 0 5 2003

GROUP 3600

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

plicants: John QUIGLEY et al

Sir:

This is a full and complete response to the non-final Office Action dated September 3, 2003, setting a three month shortened statutory time period for a reply.

In view of the following amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and allow all claims pending in the application.